

Secretary of State Budget



Iowa Secretary of State
Chet Culver

SOS Budget History

		Total Approp FY 1999			Total Approp 2000			Total Approp FY 2001
Secretary of State								
Administration & Elections	D71	705,269			755,208			809,439
Business Services	D73	1,827,758			1,877,789			1,846,660
Constitutional Amendments								
Iowa Official Register								5,000
Redistricting	D76							25,000
Servicemen's Ballot	861				3,500			
Total		<u>2,533,027</u>			<u>2,636,497</u>			<u>2,686,099</u>

SOS Budget History cont.

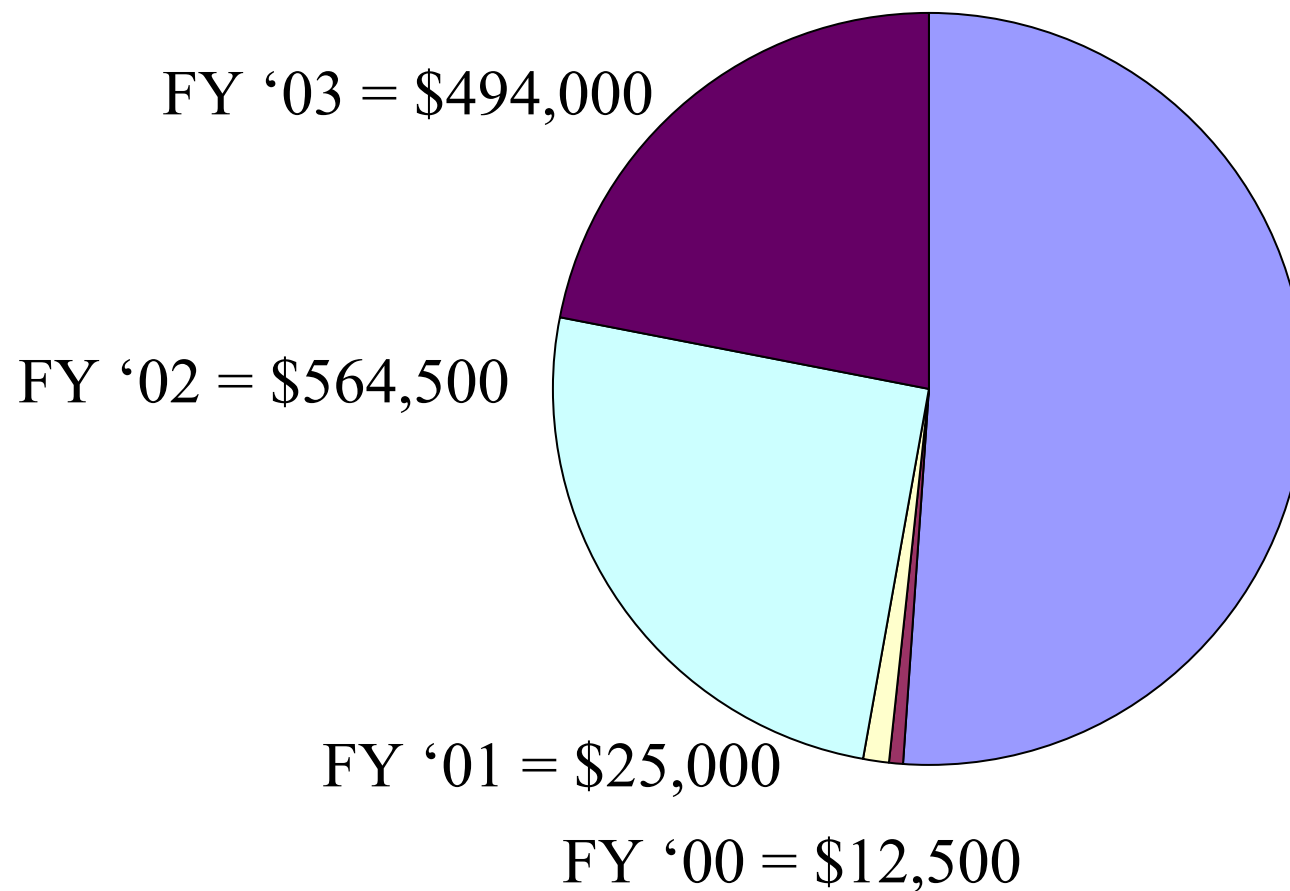
		Total					
		Approp				Compensation	FINAL
		July 2002	4.3% ATB	1% reduction		Reduction	FY 2002
Secretary of State							
Administration & Elections	D71	787,634	(33,868)	(7,538)		(5,929)	740,299
Business Services	D73	1,623,455	(69,809)	(15,536)		(13,716)	1,524,394
Constitutional Amendments							
Iowa Official Register							
Redistricting	D76	25,000	(1,075)	(239)			23,686
Servicemen's Ballot	861	3,500		(35)			3,465
Total		2,439,589	(104,752)	(23,348)		(19,645)	2,291,844

SOS Budget History cont.

					SOS Request	Gov Recomm
		FY 2003			FY 2004	FY 2004
Secretary of State						
Administration & Elections	D71	664,056			676,292	676,292
Business Services	D73	1,398,158			1,423,106	1,441,358
Constitutional Amendments						
Iowa Official Register					50,000	0
Redistricting	D76					
Servicemen's Ballot	861	0			3,500	0
Total		<u>2,062,214</u>			<u>2,152,898</u>	<u>2,117,650</u>
					FY 04 increases are from salary adjustment make-up	

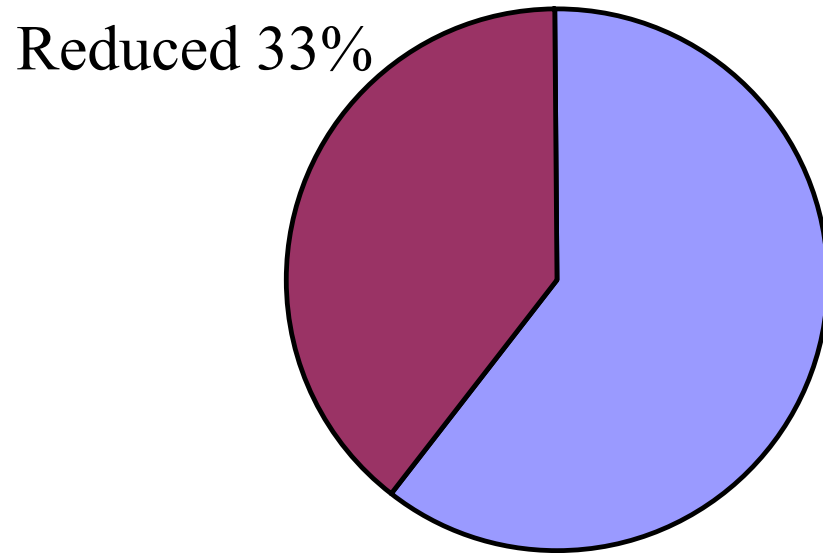
Over \$1M Cuts in 3 Years

Secretary of State Appropriation in FY '00 = ~ \$2.6m



Workforce Comparison FY 2002

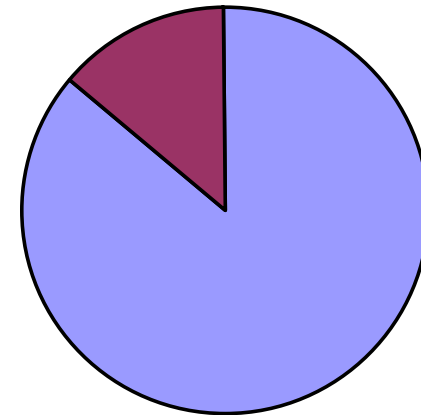
Secretary of State



Total Employees
beginning
of FY 2002

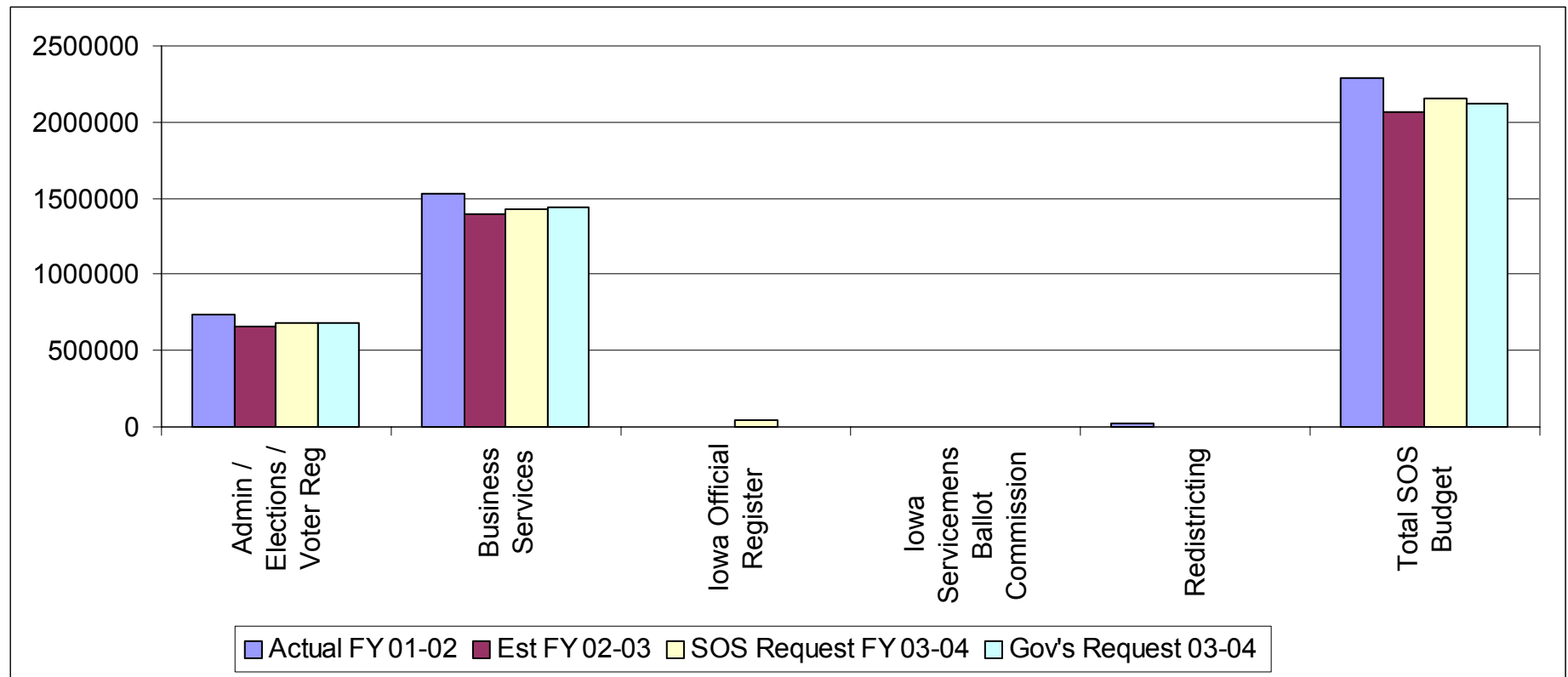
State of Iowa
(average)

Reduced 8%



Total Employees
beginning
of FY2002

Governor's Current Budget



Governor's Current Budget cont.

- Maintenance of Effort for Help America Vote Act Title II, § 254, #7 - \$110,000 – to return the SOS office to funding level of Elections and Voter Registration of FY 2000
- 5% match for FY 2003 and 2004 (\$1.2 million to access \$24 million in federal election reform money)

Campaign Finance Disclosure

- Thirty-six (36) Secretaries of State are currently responsible for elections in their state;
- Twenty-two (22) of the 36 are also responsible for campaign finance reporting;
- It is a recognized practice across the country;

CFD cont.

- Candidates currently file documents with (i.e. nomination papers) and receive election and voter registration materials from the SOS office. Moving CFD to the SOS would provide candidates with the opportunity to “one-stop shop”;
- Currently our office fields a number of inquiries from candidates and the public regarding campaign finance;

CFD cont.

- Technology is already in place to facilitate on-line filing;
- Cost savings achieved;
- *Not asking for the Ethics duties.*

Professional Licensing

- The business community interacts regularly with the SOS office:
 - Registering a business
 - UCC
 - Biennial Reports (both for-profit & non-profit)
 - Name availability
 - Trademarks
 - Notary Public
 - Transient Merchants

Professional Licensing cont.

- Move to include:
 - Architecture
 - Engineering
 - Iowa Accountancy
 - Landscape Architecture
 - Real Estate

Professional Licensing cont.

- Provide a great cost savings to businesses;
- Efficient interaction;
- Technology readily available

Customer Satisfaction ... Service with a Smile ... Words of Praise

A compilation of emails & letters
received in Secretary of State
Chet Culver's office

- For a week I've been a pest on trying to get several entity documents filed. First we sent a wrong document, we had to request holding a check until the right doc got there, we needed to know when things got filed and when we'd get our copy back. Through it all your office was excellent to work with! Your office in general, and a woman named Sofie in particular, were 100% service oriented. This was by far the best experience I've ever encountered with a government agency. My phone calls were always returned within just an hour or two. Everyone was pleasant and helpful. Your team should be the example of how good government works!!!! You have definitely raised the bar for other agencies! THANK YOU and please share my thanks with the entire team!
- Thank you for making the filing of our biennial reports too painless. You are to be commended for utilizing available technology to make your life easier and mine as well.
- I just wanted to let you know that I found your website to be extremely helpful and well done. I've been thinking about starting a small business and this has been the most helpful resource I've encountered so far. Nice work!
- Thank you for visiting our school. We appreciate it. Thank you for choosing our school to visit. Playing "Who wants to be a politician?" was a fun activity. Thanks for giving us the information to get involved through ISPAC. You are welcomed here anytime you are in the area. Thanks again.

- I enjoy writing letters such as this because it re-affirms my position there are still people who work today and give 110% to doing their job. Unclaimed Funds Repository (UFR) is a small company that locates "hard-to-find" companies and individuals who are owed money from a variety of sources (i.e. banks, trusts, tax refunds, probate etc). These entities (banks, courts, attorneys) contact us when they have exhausted their efforts to locate these beneficiaries. Such is the case today that involved two of your staff. Approximately two weeks ago, we had occasion to contact your office to secure information on a company that "dissolved" in 1986. This company was the remaining beneficiary in a bond trust that had been liquidated, but the trustee, with all their resources could not locate any of the officers of this defunct company. Even their calls to the licensing bureau and tax authority (in IA) did not produce the necessary information; perhaps they did know the questions to ask. Having dealt with this type of situation many times before, I contacted your staff by e-m and was fortunate enough to be responded to by Karen within one day and, who, upon learning the urgency of the request (the trust was closing w\i two weeks), located the requested documents within two days with the help of Diane and forwarded the same. Imagine, documents sixteen years old, and two individuals who could have just done a cursory review and said "sorry, there is nothing in the file", took that little extra time to extend themselves to find the information. You should be commended for providing the necessary training and/or complimenting your staff with such highly motivated people. Many thanks.....please make sure to update their personnel files to reflect their dedication and knowledge of their respective positions.

- Hello Iowa! Just a quick note to let you know that I really enjoyed searching on your web site!! I am on the internet half of the day, and need to find information from various SOS WEB SITES and your web has been the easiest yet!! It wasn't difficult at all and the information is very helpful! I will pass this on to other co-workers! I was very impressed with how fast and accurate this site is. Keep up the great work!
- Your website is excellent. Very easy to navigate and very informative. I like it ! I congratulate you on a well planned electronic office. Best Wishes !
- I am sending this email to commend your office for incorporating the option of electronic filing for Biennial Reports. I think it is a fabulous idea, not only to benefit yourselves but also for us, the Corporate filers. It is very refreshing to have this option as it is very quick and the process itself is very simple to understand. Hopefully, other states will soon offer this as well. Good Job and Thanks again!!!!
- It was a pleasure hearing Secretary Culver speak today. As a parent of a high school sophomore, I found hearing about the work being done to involve young people in the political process extremely interesting.
- Thanks for having us file the nonprofit report via the internet. I deal with 4 different states and your office is the BEST. You help make my job easier. Thank you.

- Joe Zerfus called from the DNR who has been assigned to evaluate and make recommendations for their electronic management in the DNR. He has been interviewing many state agencies. Harry invited him to come to the SOS Lucas office to meet the staff, be shown around, and ask questions. Joe Zerfus immensely appreciated the hospitality. He said, "the Secretary of State's office is an excellent case study of efficiency and time. This is special. Harry spent an hour with me. I am trying to understand a lot more to help the DNR. Do you know how special your technology is?"
- THANK YOU SO MUCH for the opportunity to file the Iowa Non-Profit Biennial Report ON-LINE! What a terrific convenience! This was so easy to accomplish and I have a higher level of confidence in making sure this gets taken care of on-line than by filing through the mail. The on-line method sure saves time! Keep up the great work!
- I spoke with Kathy in your office first thing this morning and she was VERY helpful in getting me the number as requested/needed. I greatly appreciate your attention to this matter in such timely fashion. Thank you for your help & have a nice day.
- Thank you, on 08/28/02 it came to my attention that my corporation was administratively dissolved on 08/05/02 due to failure to file 2002 annual/biennial report. I could not renew my liquor license because of this oversight. I really don't know how this oversight came about, but the important thing is that you had two people in your office that took the time to listen and help me with my problem. I do not know the ladies last names, their first names were Paula and Karen. Many times public servants are criticized for not caring for other people's concerns; only their own. The two very caring professional people you have in your office that helped me with my problem are an asset to your office. Would you please give them a big thank you.

- Take it from someone who deals with filing Annual Reports in every state in the U.S., Iowa has the best electronic filing system I've ever seen for Annual Reports. Thank you Thank you Thank you!!!!!!
- In December of 2001 my wife and I returned home from Russia where we adopted a wonderful little girl named Alyssa (Larisa). In preparation for the adoption I frequently contacted the Secretary of State's office to request apostilles for the mountain of documentation that was required. Since the adoption, I've relied on your services for required follow up documentation as well. I want you to know how much I've appreciated the level of service I've received each and every time I've called. The people in your Business Services area have consistently impressed me, not only with their efficiency, but also with their kindness. Thank you to all of you! You're a shining example of what service really means.
- Thank you for sponsoring the Capitol Project! Aleasha absolutely LOVED it. She went on and on about the experience. She said that she learned far more than she would have ever imagined. Matt is planning on being there today. He sent his information in on Wednesday or Thursday so you should have it by now. He and Ruben are leaving here around 1:00 so they should be there by 4:00. A huge thank you for coordinating such a program as this. I can't think of a better experience, besides the Mock Legislature that is offered in the fall, that ranks as high as this does for high school students. Anytime we can get our young minds real life experiences as this, the learning that takes place is phenomenal. Thanks again!